

PROCLAMATION **NORTH DAKOTA TOURISM WEEK** MAY 9-17, 2009

WHEREAS, the U.S. travel and tourism industry is one of America's largest industries, generating \$740 billion in domestic and international expenditures and accounting for more than 7.7 million jobs; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota's tourism industry is the second-largest industry in the state, with out-of-state visitor spending contributing \$3.96 billion to the state's overall economy; and

WHEREAS, travel provided employment for more than 30,200 jobs in North Dakota, generating a payroll of \$733 million; and

WHEREAS, in 2007, each dollar spent in advertising North Dakota's tourism offerings generated \$123 in visitor spending, bringing nearly \$204 million to the state; and

WHEREAS, given these notable contributions to the economic, social and cultural well-being of the citizens of North Dakota, it is fitting that we recognize the importance of the state's travel industry; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to vacation in their backyard and experience the many historical, cultural and recreational activities and destinations that make the state legendary.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 9-17, 2009, **TOURISM WEEK** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State

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